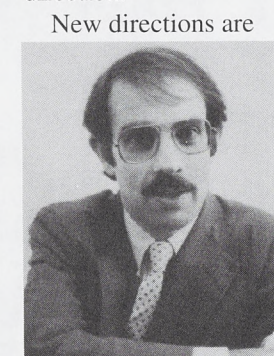


DOW JONES GETS BOOST IN ASIA

Dow Jones is revving up its two key Asian publications, both based in Hong Kong, and a veteran journalist who has been recognized by the Overseas Press Club is helping lead the way.

The period of drift affecting *The Asian Wall Street Journal*, a daily, and the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, a weekly magazine, both owned by Dow Jones, is over. Previously, *The Asian Journal* was seen as a backwater compared to the more prestigious *Wall Street Journal*, and the Review suffered a series of changes at the top of its masthead that left it without strong editorial direction.



Urban C. Lehner being shaped in part by Urban C. Lehner, one of the *Wall Street Journal's* most distinguished Asian hands,

who became editor of *The Asian Wall Street Journal* late last year. Previously, Lehner had been Tokyo bureau chief for the domestic *Journal* since 1987. It was in that capacity that he shared an OPC citation for the "strained alliance" between the United States and Japan.

Named editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review* was L. Gordon Crovitz, previously assistant editor of the *Journal's* editorial page in New York. Nayan Chanda was named deputy editor of the *Review*. Chanda is the author of several books on Indochina.

Prior to going to Hong Kong, he was editor of *The Asian Wall Street Journal Weekly*, based in New York. Frank Ching, a veteran *Wall Street Journal* correspondent who has served in Beijing, rounds out the team.

They have launched a redesign that includes a new table of contents, a Profile page and a Research & Innovation column.



Larry Smith, left, and Bill Holstein bring the OPC owl safely to nest in the club's new offices on 42nd Street.

THE OPC OWL HAS LANDED

For all those who may have lain awake nights worrying, it can now be reported that the OPC owl has been plucked from durance vile in the nethermost regions of the Women's Republican Club and spirited to safety in the OPC's new offices at 320 East 42nd St., two doors down from The Tudor.

The great green copper bird is one of 18 that once graced the roof of the two-story Herald Building, which was modeled on a Veronese palazzo and designed by Stanford White in 1894. The birds were crafted in France at the order of James Gordon Bennett Jr., who had a fetish for owls. When the building came down, the owls were placed in the care of various individuals and deserving organizations. "Ours is a corner owl," notes Ken Koyen of the OPC, who worked at

the *Paris Herald* and later for the *Herald Trib.* "It had lights in its eyes." Sure enough, a cap on the bird's head is removable, making it possible to put a bulb therein and combine light with wisdom.

If you know any more about the owls, contact Amy Sivco, editor of *The Bulletin*.

OBITUARY

ALEXANDER LIEPA

Alexander E. Liepa, a retired book editor and longtime member of the OPC, died Feb. 28 of cancer at his home in Weston, Conn. He was 78. Prior to retiring, Liepa was editorial director of general religion for Doubleday. Survivors include two sons, Paul of Huntington, L.I., and Erik of New York City, and a brother, Gunnars, also of New York.

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Bosnian Ambassador To Speak to OPC

Few nations are undergoing agony on the scale of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and few diplomats are more articulate in explaining the crisis and advocating a solution. His Excellency Muhamed Sacirbey, who is Bosnia's Ambassador to the United Nations, will share his insights with the Overseas Press Club at 5:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, March 23** at The Tudor, 304 E. 42nd St. Admission is free but you must make reservations.

What makes Ambassador Sacirbey so unique is that he holds dual Bosnian and U.S. citizenship. His family left Sarajevo as refugees in 1963 and arrived in Ohio, where he was elected to the high school student council and played on the football team. After earning degrees at Tulane and Columbia, he practiced law in New York and worked on Wall Street. He was appointed permanent representative and ambassador to the U.N. from his native land, which was admitted to the world body in May 1992.

If you are interested in what the West, and the U.S. in particular, can do to end the bloodshed and incredible suffering in Bosnia, this is a must event.

Want To Learn How To Be a Foreign Correspondent?

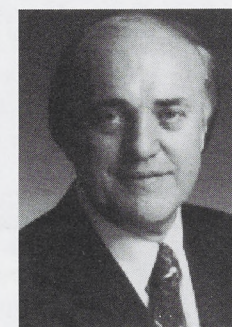
The OPC Foundation and the Center for Communications are pleased to present a daylong workshop for students on how to become a foreign correspondent. The event will be held on **Tuesday, April 13**, from 10 to 4 in the auditorium

of the lower level of the General Electric building at 570 Lexington Ave.

Speakers will include Peter Arnett and Richard Roth of CNN, Tom Kent of the Associated Press, and Johanna McGeary from *Time*. The sessions will be held at the Center for Communications, which is located at 570 Lexington Ave.

H.L. Stevenson, head of the OPC Foundation, and Irina Posner and Catherine Williams of the Center say a panel of correspondents and editors will speak during the morning session from 10 to noon on how to prepare for a career in foreign reporting.

Arnett will speak during lunch, consisting of sandwiches, fruit and sodas, which are being provided by the foundation. Members of the Overseas Press Club are invited for the entire program, but they are especially urged to come at lunchtime to meet with the students in



Peter Arnett

the audience.

"We need the support of all OPC members," Stevenson said, referring not only to the workshop but also to the foundation's need for financial support. "Your contributions, large or small, will help us work more closely with young people and raise the OPC's visibility. We hope to hold at least one workshop each year and to increase the number of scholarships."

Contributions are tax deductible. They can be sent to the foundation at the club's new office at 320 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y., 10017.

Chancellor To Get President's Award

John Chancellor, the NBC News commentator, will receive the President's Award at this year's OPC dinner, to be held at the Grand Hyatt at 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 27. A sizable number of award submissions have been received in all 17 categories, Mary Novick reports. Sam Donaldson will present the awards. Mark this date on your calendar now.

The Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
320 East 42nd Street, Mezzanine
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OPC Bulletin



A panel of editors at The Tudor tell how they are exporting U.S. journalism to Russia. Seated are (l-r): Robert Dowling, Christopher Wren, Christopher Wilcox and Max McCrohon, who said readers had pleaded, "Please, please, go easy on the politics."

A Boom Market in Words 4 New U.S. Journals Score in Russia

BY CHRISTIE EMDEN

Four new Russian-language publications of leading American journals are enjoying such immense popularity among Russian citizens that they have become black market commodities, representatives of the four news agencies told members of the Overseas Press Club late last month.

They also reported that profits have not matched their editorial success, but said they were in the game for the long term.

The panelists were Christopher Wren, editor of new projects for *The New York Times*; Christopher Wilcox, executive editor of *Reader's Digest International*; Robert J. Dowling, assistant managing editor of *Business Week*; and Max McCrohon, editor-in-chief of *We*, a joint venture between Hearst and *Izvestia*, which is published both in

English and Russian. Ann Blinkhorn, publisher of *The Times's* Russian edition, was moderator.

McCrohon, whose *We* is published bi-monthly and distributed mainly in Moscow, reported that the magazine had received letters from as far away as Upper Siberia. He said that an engineering student wrote that she bought the paper with her lunch money. According to McCrohon, she said, "I would willingly give up my lunch money every day, if you would publish it every day."

Wilcox, whose *Reader's Digest* was first published in Russia in 1991 and has a circulation of 100,000, noted that the magazine was "an absolute sell-out since it debuted."

Wren too said that *The Times*, with a 120,000 circulation in Russia, sells

Tokyo Club Sends a Hello

BY ROBERT NEFF

Word of the OPC's spiffy new quarters has spanned the Pacific, and we at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan salute you. We're especially envious because for the past three years we've been struggling to come up with a renovation plan for our own premises, which we occupied in 1976 on the top two floors of the Yurakucho Denki Building near the Ginza.

It's been a pretty tortuous process because we don't have much money to spend but need to do a pretty thorough overhaul. Then there's the politically riven regular membership of 480 journalists to contend with. They voted down an ambitious plan unanimously proposed by the Board of Directors in a January referendum, and it's unclear what the next step will be. There's general consensus on the need for renovation but just as much disagreement on how much to spend and where to get the money.

But despite these concerns, the FCCJ has long enjoyed a wide reputation as the world's largest foreign correspondents club—and arguably the best. Our history dates to late 1945 when the Occupation allocated foreign correspondents a downtown restaurant building as billets. These quarters were affectionately dubbed No. 1 Shimbun Alley (shimbun means newspaper in Japanese), and despite several relocations since, letters sent to that address still arrive at the FCCJ.

From an original membership of about 170 correspondents representing

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Continued on p. 2



A busy street in Tokyo, in front of the Kanda Myojin Shrine. The FCCJ is an island of sanity for western reporters.

Tokyo Club...

Continued from p. 1

all of the Allied powers, our "regular" membership has nearly tripled. Roughly half of these are Japanese journalists who have spent at least three years abroad on assignment. Along the way we've added about 1,500 "associate," non-voting members from the ranks of Japanese and foreign businessmen and others. Their larger initiation fees and dues, and freer spending, account for roughly 90 percent of Club revenues.

Over the years we've built up our share of lore. Veteran members still remember the correspondent who accidentally locked himself in the Club's phone booth and called his office 8,000 miles away so they could phone the club's bar to have someone walk 35 feet to let him out. Why he didn't just phone the bar himself remains a mystery. Also fondly remembered is the farewell party for Abe Rosenthal that turned into a drunken melee.

But the Club didn't become locally notorious until the mid-'70s, when former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka came to give a speech and was aggressively questioned about reports of his involvement in the Lockheed bribery scandal. Japanese reporters hadn't dared ask him about this, but Japanese

TV cameras were rolling. That was the beginning of the end for Japan's strongest post-war premier. The Club moved out of Shimbun Alley in 1955, again three years later, and once again after that, atop its spanking new Yurakucho Denki Building, and at concessionary rates that continue to this day.

Our rent is half or less than the going rate. That helps us serve the cheapest

coffee, drinks and victuals in Tokyo.

We've also established reciprocal privileges with our counterparts in Hong Kong and Seoul. We may be physically a little rough around the edges these days, but I hope for not much longer. And you can't beat us for location, value, professional resources and all-round cameraderie.

Bob Neff is Business Week's Tokyo Bureau Chief and secretary of the FCCJ.

How to reciprocate: The Overseas Press Club is interested in establishing reciprocal privileges with leading press clubs and associations around the world. For more information, write or call Mary Novick, the manager, at the club's headquarters or contact Al Kaff at the Cornell News Service, 840 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850-1548.

Japanese Press Club Allows Foreigners

BY AL KAFF

Bowing to years of pressure from the foreign press corps and some foreign embassies, the Kasumi Club, the kisha club in Japan's Foreign Ministry, agreed in November to accept The Associated Press and Reuters as its first foreign members.

Since 1945, doors had been closed to foreigners by Japan's rigid system of kisha (press) clubs that represent that nation's major newspapers and broadcasters. Press club membership was restricted to reporters from Japan's mainstream media, and foreign correspondents in Japan were barred from asking questions at—or even attending—most news conferences held in government and police agencies.

Established in each government min-

istry, kisha clubs arrange news conferences and off-record briefings held by government ministers and other officials, and they establish attendance rules. Foreign correspondents, as well as reporters for many Japanese publications other than national dailies, were not accepted into the Japanese clubs.

However, kisha club rules never prohibited foreign correspondents from making their own contacts with government and police officials.

The Foreign Press in Japan, an organization established years ago in Tokyo to represent all foreign correspondents in their dealings with the Japanese government, protested the press club system for decades with few results. The acceptance of the Associated Press and Reuters marks a victory for the organization.

P.J. O'Rourke Calls Somalia Scene of Ruin

BY AMY SIVCO

P.J. O'Rourke, the journalist and author of several books, told OPC members at The Tudor recently that Somalia might be a nice place to visit, but he wouldn't want to live there.

In fact, he said, it wasn't even a place you'd want to visit. O'Rourke who had been sent there by *Rolling Stone*, called the condition of the country disastrous. He saw in the damage and poverty a "complete breakdown of everything decent and worthwhile," he said, and described the area as a "scene of near paleolithic ruin—except for the modern weapons."

"The only evidence left that the twentieth century produced anything pleasant in Somalia," said O'Rourke, "was crude pictures of canned goods,



P.J. O'Rourke: A good crowd turned out on a bad night to hear him speak.

TV sets and so on painted outside some abandoned storefronts."

While stationed there, he stayed with other news organizations in a large, walled house that used to belong to an Arab ambassador, but was refurbished to accommodate the journalists.

"Somalia is not a place I could go alone as a one-man foreign bureau," he noted.

He explained that it was impossible to leave the compound without security guards.

"No foreigner could make a move without setting off a bee's nest of attention," said O'Rourke, who added

that khat—the drug of choice of many Somalis—often inspired many arguments between the security guards. The guards would start chewing the drug—which looks like watercress and is sold by the bunch for about \$2—after lunch and the "high" would kick in around 3 o'clock. By dusk, he said, frantic arguments and fights would break out.

O'Rourke said the children of Somalia liked the Marines and would tell them where snipers were hiding or where weapons were stashed.

"Schools have long ago disappeared from Mogadishu," said O'Rourke. "The streets are filled with kids."

He also explained that the Somalians were segregated by clans and sub-clans constantly at war. Two clans, the nomads and the farmers, have been fighting for centuries, he said, adding that the gunmen responsible for a lot of the damage in the country are from the nomad group. The farmers, he said, are the people who are starving.

"It is one of Somalia's plentiful supply of ironies that the victims of its famine are the people who grow its food," he commented.

Latin American 'Free' Press Still a Dream

BY NORMAN A. SCHORR, Chairman of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee

The spread of democratically elected governments in Latin America brought hope that press freedom in the Americas would enjoy parallel progress.

Yet, the most recent report of the Inter American Press Association's (IAPA) Committee on Freedom of the Press and Information is titled, regrettably, "Spread of freedom remains a 'deferred dream' for some."

It is not just in countries such as Cuba and Haiti where a free press is non-existent. Liberty and a free press

also are under attack, the IAPA report states, in "once long-time traditional democracies, as Venezuela, Peru, Colombia and others struggle against the equal evils of a coup d'etat, terrorism and the drug cartels."

The rifle is one of the weapons used to silence annoying journalists. Another effective technique is the imposition of constitutional, legal and judicial restrictions. Some countries limit the practice of journalism to men and women who meet certain suitability requirements or who belong to a highly restrictive guild.

The IAPA report covers most coun-

tries in North, Central and South America. In Colombia, for example, the IAPA says the assassin still imposes the ultimate censorship. Terrorist bombs exploded at two radio networks recently, and prior to October 1992 an average of one journalist a month was killed. And in Cuba, the IAPA reports that persecution of the press has grown more severe.

On a positive note, however, the prestige of the press in Brazil was enhanced considerably by investigative reporting that contributed to the impeachment of the country's president.

This article is Part 1 of a series.

Newsweek Shifts Key Positions In U.S., Paris, London and Mideast

Stryker McGuire, who has served as *Newsweek's* chief of correspondents, will become West Coast editor effective this month, according to Maynard Parker, the editor of the magazine. Ann McDaniel will move to New York from the Washington bureau where she was recently named Congressional correspondent, to take over as chief of correspondents and senior editor.

Ted Stanger will switch from Jerusalem bureau chief to Paris bureau chief. Chris Dickey is moving from his job as Paris bureau chief to Cairo

bureau chief and Middle East regional editor.

Also, Bill Burger will move from *Newsweek International* senior editor to Europe economics editor based in London. Karen Breslau will become the general editor of *Newsweek International*. She most recently served as Bonn-Berlin correspondent.

Marcus Mabry will switch from Washington correspondent to Paris correspondent. Farai Chideya, currently a researcher at *Newsweek* in New York, will become a reporter in Washington, D.C.



Ann McDaniel



Chris Dickey



Marcus Mabry



Karen Breslau

2 Join the Club; 3 Apply for Entry

Two persons have just been named new members of the OPC. The new members are Stanley F. Reed of *Business Week* and John L. Buckman of *IR Magazine*, a corporate finance publication in London.

The Membership Committee is also delighted to have received several other applications:

John Moody, the bureau chief of Italy for *Time*. Moody is a former

bureau chief in Moscow for UPI, and he also worked in Eastern Europe.

Roger Cohen, *The New York Times* correspondent in Paris, has also sent in an application for the club. Cohen formerly worked for *The Wall Street Journal* in Rome and Rio and for Reuters in Brussels and Rome.

In addition, Patricia Newlin of the Newlin Company filed for reinstatement.

Black Market...

continued from p. 1

out in two hours.

Dowling, whose *Business Week* has a circulation of 60,000, reported that people wanted "a lot of science, technology, and information about how to do things in Western business."

"We found in 1991," said Wilcox, "that there was a lot of interest in getting any American enterprise into the Soviet Union. The people literally said you can print whatever you want, as long as you bring in hard currency."

Censorship, however, was still a concern for McCrohon—"especially pre-coup"—as the prototype for *We* included anti-communist material and was issued when Gorbachev was still in power. Though some veiled threats were received from the government, little interference actually developed.

McCrohon did note, however, that during the coup, the editor-in-chief tried to censor *Izvestia* "but the staff refused to print the paper in that event." Later, the editor was found to be a senior communist official and was fired.

Despite their success, a major concern reported by all four publications was that their enterprises were not turning a profit, or only a marginal one. "Until we get a convertible ruble in Russia, it's going to be very difficult to make money," said Wilcox.

With a shaky economy and the chance of another coup, the editors are admittedly unsure of the stability of their operations. However, they all plan to continue their efforts. Said Wilcox: "We have had a pretty proud record of going in at ground zero, making the long-term investment and seeing it pay off."